said interview and reasons for selecting that particular candidate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) We, Sir. However, three candiates holding Ph. D. degrees appeared for he written test but did not qualify for the interview.

(b) Names of candidates who appeared for interview are given below:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Sheeja T.E. | M.Sc (Biotech) |
| 2. | Jayachandran K. | M.Sc (Biotech) |
| 3. | Beena C. | M.Sc (Biochem) |
| 4. | Narasimhan K. | M.Sc (Plant Science) |
| 5. | Balasubramanian P.V. | M.Sc (Biochem) |
| 6. | Rekha K. | M.Sc (Agri.) |
| 7. | Valsala K. | M.Sc (Genetics PI. Breeding) |
| 8. | Bindu R. Panapalli | M.Sc (Biochem) |
| 9. | Sabu K.K. | M.Sc BOT (Biotech) |
| 10. | Soni K.B. | M.Sc (Biotech) |

Out of the total of 184 applicants, only 56 attended the test, 3 out of 14 Ph. D. holders among the applicants truned up for the written test. 11 candidates who scored 60% marks and above were shortlisted for interview. 10 of them attended the interview. 6 found suitable for selection were ranked in order of marit. The first two Mr. K. Narasimhan and Mr. K.B. Soni were appointed.

**Selling of Wheat and Rice by FCI**

1009. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the quantity of wheat and rice sold by FCI under the open sale scheme during the last two years to Mill Owners and the small traders;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Mill Owners made bulk purchase and small traders could not avail of the benefit of the scheme;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to ensure that small traders also get the benefit of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) wheat:— Open sale of wheat was started with effect from October, 1993. Initially open sale of wheat was restricted to the Roller Flour Mills, Civil Supplies Corporations, Confectionaries, Bread Manufacturers, Cooperative Societies, Bakeries, Chakki owners, Super Bazar and Wholesale and Retail Foodgrains Licensed dealers. The conditions for possessing foodgrains licence had been done away with since 13-9-1994. Now any party/trader is free to purchase wheat from the open market under the open sale scheme. The quantity of wheat sold during the year 1994 and 1995 is as under:—

(in lakh tonnes)

| | |
|---|---|
| January, 1994 to December, 1994 | 42.31 |
| January, 1995 to December, 1995 | 65.04 |

Rice:— The open sale of rice was started with effect from 1-1-1994. The sale was open to the wholesalers, retailers, foodgrains licence holders, Coop. Organisations, and State Civil Supplies Corp. Super Bazar etc. The quantity of rice sold under open sale scheme during the year 1994 and 1995 is as under:—

(in tonnes)

| | |
|---|---|
| January, 1994 to December, 1994 | to2.48 |
| January, 1995 to December, 1995 | tol4.48 |

For making open sale scheme more effective and to ensure that the benefits of the scheme are available to a large number of beneficiaries including small traders, wide publicity was given to open sale scheme and the minimum unit of sale of wheat was reduced from 20 tonnes to 5 tonnes and the minimum unit of sale of rice was gradually reduced from 10

tonnes to 10 bags only. The Government had further reviewed the policy and procedure of the open market sale scheme. After review the FCI was advised inter-alia as under:—

(i) To fix an upper ceiling of 200 MT and 1000 MT for open sale from FCI godowns with capacity of 5000 MT and more than 5000 MT respectively per buyer per week.

(ii) To advise District Managers not to assume the role of alloting wheat for open sale to buyers. With upper ceiling as in para (i) above they were advised to follow the existing instructions on "First-come-First-Served" basis.

(iii) To display prominently a Notice Board in the Offices of District Managers indicating clearly the tentative quantity for sale, total stocks available and rates of open sale.

**Objections over EU's Duty Concession to Indian Rice**

1010. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to sta'e:

(a) whether US and Pakistan have raised strong objections in July, 1995 over the European Union's duty concession to Indian rice;

(b) if so, the details of the main objections raised;

(c) the names of the countries who have supported India;

(d) whether Government have agreed to remove the objections raised by these countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e) The European Commission has introduced a new regulation for import duties on rice with effect from 1.7.95. Under this regulation inter-alia, a Reference Price System has been adopted which provides import tariff concession of 250 ECU per tonne for Indian origin husked basmati rice and 50 ECU per tonne for Pakistani origin husked basmati rice. The US Government held consultations with the EU under the WTO framework on, inter-alia, the validity of the Reference Price System. It is gathered that Pakistan has also sought a dispensation from EU similar to that accorded to Indian origin husked basmati rice. India has also made its position on EUs duty concession to Indian husked basmati rice known to EU through diplomatic channels.

**Violation of P.F. Act by Private Schools**

1011. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale violation of the provisions of Provident Fund Act by private schools; and

(b) if so, the details and what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**कोयले का उत्पादन तथा खपत**

1012. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय** :

**श्री अनन्तराय जासवाल :**

क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में प्रति वर्ष कितने करोड़ टन कोयले का उत्पादन होता है, इसकी खपत कितनी है तथा कितने कोयले की कमी है,

(ख) क्या सरकार ने खनन क्षेत्र मे अतिरिक्त मात्रा में कोयले के खनन हेतु विदेशी उद्यमियों को आमंत्रित